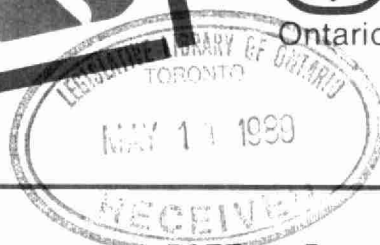


FACTSMinistry
of the
EnvironmentHon. Jim Bradley
MinisterRod McLeod,
Deputy Minister

about pesticides

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ONTARIO CLASSIFICATION OF PESTICIDE PRODUCTS

INTRODUCTION

Under the authority of the Pesticides Act, and Regulations administered by the Agricultural and Industrial Chemicals Section, Ministry of the Environment, all pesticide products sold in the Province of Ontario must be classified and assigned a schedule.

The pesticides classified are listed by their P.C.P. number (Registration number) in their assigned Schedule in a publication entitled "Index of Canadian Agent Codes".

Pesticides are classified into six schedules on the basis of their toxicity, environmental or health hazard, persistence of the active ingredient, or its metabolites, concentration and usage. The classification system is aimed at controlling the distribution, availability and use of pesticides in Ontario.

A procedure has recently been put in place to streamline the classification process for pesticide products. This procedure provides for "interim status" products. These products are proposed by the Minister for inclusion in a schedule to Regulation 751, and the proposal is published in the Ontario Gazette. A person who sells or uses such a product as if it were in the specified schedule, is exempt from the prohibition against sale or use of an unscheduled product. A copy of the revised section of the Regulation and a sample copy of the proposal in regard to "interim status" products is attached.

In practice, the procedure to classify new pesticide products is as follows:

1. Notice of proposed scheduling of products recommended by the Ontario Pesticides Advisory Committee and approved by the Minister of the Environment will be regularly published in the Ontario Gazette as "interim status" products.
2. Once such a notice has been published, a pesticide product can be legally sold, used, stored, displayed or transported provided it is treated as being in the schedule specified in the notice.
3. The "interim status" of products remains in effect until:-
 - a. a revocation of the listing is published in the Ontario Gazette;
 - b. eighteen months have expired since the listing was published in the Ontario Gazette; or

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- c. the product is placed in a schedule to Regulation 751 by a regulatory amendment.
4. The "interim status" of a product will be reviewed within eighteen months of publication in the Ontario Gazette and will be considered for placement in one of the six schedules to Regulation 751.
5. A product which has been placed in a schedule to Regulation 751 retains this classification until changed or revoked.

Under the new system pesticide products will continue to be carefully reviewed for toxicity, environmental or health hazards and persistence by the Ontario Pesticides Advisory Committee and the Ministry.

The following is a brief outline of the criteria used for scheduling pesticides in Ontario and is meant as a guide for candidates preparing for Operator's and Exterminator's licences.

SCHEDULES 1 and 5

Schedule 1 pesticides are restricted and can only be used by the holder of a specific use permit.

Schedule 5 pesticides are limited to application on agricultural land.

Criteria used for defining Schedule 1 include:

- 1) pesticides that pose a serious hazard to public health and/or natural environment.
- 2) pesticides exhibiting:
 - Acute oral LD₅₀
(single dose - mg/kg) 0 - 50
 - Acute dermal LD₅₀
(single dose - mg/kg) 0 - 100
 - Inhalation Limits LC₅₀
(continuous for 8 hours
- mg/l air) 0 - 2, e.g., methyl bromide
- 3) pesticides which are persistent and/or give rise to persistent metabolites that produce undesirable side effects on non-target organisms either by acute or chronic toxicity, e.g., DDT.

- 4) pesticides which through their mode of action may inflict unnecessary suffering to vertebrate pests.

Criteria used for defining Schedule 5 include:

- 1) pesticides that pose a serious hazard to public health and/or the natural environment.
- 2) pesticides exhibiting:
- | | |
|--|---------|
| Acute Oral LD ₅₀ | |
| (single dose - mg/kg) | 0 - 50 |
| Acute Dermal LD ₅₀ | |
| (single dose - mg/kg) | 0 - 100 |
| Inhalation Limits LC ₅₀ | |
| (continuous for 8 hours
- mg/litre air) | 0 - 2 |
- 3) the lack of less hazardous control products which could provide adequate protection to agricultural crops.

SCHEDULE 2

Pesticides in this schedule are restricted to agriculturists, licenced exterminators and registered custom sprayers.

Criteria used for defining Schedule 2 include:

- 1) organic pesticides that do not present problems of long term persistence or accumulation in biological tissues and those inorganic pesticides that may present a degree of hazard to the environment.
- 2) pesticides exhibiting:
- | | |
|--|-------------|
| Acute Oral LD ₅₀ | |
| (single dose - mg/kg) | 50 - 500 |
| Acute Dermal LD ₅₀ | |
| (single dose - mg/kg) | 100 - 1,000 |
| Inhalation Limits LC ₅₀ | |
| (continuous for 8 hours
- mg/litre air) | 2 - 20 |

SCHEDULE 3

Schedule 3 pesticides are available to the homeowner. Hazards are considered minimal for the use of these pesticides.

Criteria uses for defining Schedule 3 include:

1) pesticides exhibiting:

Acute Oral LD₅₀

(single dose - mg/kg) 500 - 5,000

Acute Dermal LD₅₀

(single dose - mg/kg) 1,000 - 10,000

Inhalation Limits LC₅₀

(continuous for 8 hours
- mg/litre air) 20 - 200

- 2) pesticides should pose minimal hazards to the environment and to public health.
- 3) organic pesticides that are short-lived and do not produce either persistent or toxic metabolites.
- 4) those organic pesticides that present a minimal environmental hazard.
- 5) product residues should not pose a problem when 'empty' containers are disposed of in municipal garbage.

SCHEDULES 4 and 6

Schedule 4 products are those that can safely be handled by any type of outlet and would be available for sale in food handling establishments. They must carry a federally approved domestic label.

Schedule 6 products are identical to those in Schedule 4 but there is no limit to package size and the product may be designed for commercial use.

Criteria used for defining Schedules 4 and 6 include:

1) pesticides exhibiting:

Acute Oral LD₅₀

(single dose - mg/kg) 5,000

Acute Dermal LD₅₀

(single dose - mg/kg) 10,000

Inhalation Limits LC₅₀

(continuous for 8 hours

- mg/litre air) 200

- 2) pesticides that are of no known hazard to the environment or domestic pets.

NOTE

Test animals for toxicological data in order of preference are:

- 1) primates
- 2) dogs and cats
- 3) rodents
- 4) fish and birds

Classification is based on lowest valid LD₅₀ values. Other effects considered - carcinogenesis, etc.